

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A balance comprising a housing (1) with a bottom
2 (6), at least one display/operating unit (13), at least one
3 cable (14) connecting the at least one display/operating
4 unit (13) to the balance, a corridor compartment (24)
5 arranged at the bottom (6) for storing an unused length of
6 the at least one cable (14), and at least one exit opening
7 (22, 29, 30) from the corridor compartment (24) for the
8 cable (14) to pass through, wherein the at least one
9 display/operating unit (13) can be placed adjacent to the
10 housing (1) as well as at a distance from the housing (1),
11 and wherein the cable (14) is freely movable inside the
12 corridor compartment (24) so that a required length of cable
13 can be pulled out of the corridor compartment (24) or an
14 unused length of cable can be pushed into the corridor
15 compartment (24).

1 2. The balance of claim 1, wherein the corridor
2 compartment (24) is integrated in the bottom (6).

1 3. The balance of claim 1, further comprising guide
2 elements (26, 27, 28) arranged in the corridor compartment
3 (24) to guide the cable (14).

1 4. The balance of claim 3, wherein the guide
2 elements (26, 27, 28) are configured as guide walls that are
3 integrated in the corridor compartment (24).

1 5. The balance of claim 4, wherein said guide walls
2 are curved and have shapes selected from the group
3 consisting of hook shapes, U-shapes, and S-shapes.

1 6. The balance of claim 1, further comprising a
2 weighing-related electronic circuit and a cable plug (23) on
3 the cable (14) to connect the cable (14) to said weighing-
4 related electronic circuit inside the balance.

1 7. The balance of claim 1, wherein the
2 display/operating unit (13) is connectable to the housing
3 (1).

1 8. The balance of claim 1, further comprising an
2 intermediate member (10), which holds the display/operating
3 unit (13) in place on the housing (1).

1 9. The balance of claim 8, wherein the intermediate
2 member (10) is configured to be plugged into at least one of
3 the housing (1) and the display/operating unit (13).

1 10. The balance of claim 8, wherein the
2 intermediate member (10) comprises a flat portion (21) that
3 is usable to carry information.

1 11. The balance of claim 8, further comprising a
2 first emitter/receiver unit (43) arranged on the
3 intermediate member (10) and a second emitter/receiver unit
4 arranged in the display/operating unit (13), so that
5 electronic signals can be transmitted between the first and
6 second emitter/receiver units.

1 12. The balance of claim 1, wherein the at least
2 one exit opening (22, 29, 30) comprises on each of at least
3 two different sides of the corridor compartment (24) at
4 least one exit opening (22, 29, 30) for the at least one
5 cable (14).

1 13. The balance of claim 1, wherein the at least
2 one cable (14) comprises a plurality of cables and the at
3 least one exit opening (22, 29, 30) comprises a plurality of
4 exit openings, and wherein the corridor compartment (24) is
5 configured to accommodate said cables so that each can be
6 pulled out or pushed in through a different one of said exit
7 openings.

1 14. The balance of claim 1, wherein the corridor
2 compartment (24) has an underside covered by a bottom plate
3 (32).

1 15. The balance of claim 1, wherein the at least
2 one cable (14) comprises a cable plug (15) at a cable end
3 that is connectable to the display/operating unit (13), and
4 wherein the display/operating unit (13) comprises a plug-in
5 socket for the cable plug (15).

1 16. The balance of claim 1, wherein the
2 display/operating unit (13) can be set at an adjustable tilt
3 angle.

1 17. The balance of claim 1, wherein the at least
2 one display/operating unit (13) comprises a plurality of
3 display/operating units that can be connected to the balance
4 simultaneously.

1 18. The balance of claim 2, further comprising
2 guide elements (26, 27, 28) being configured as guide walls
3 that are integrated in the corridor compartment (24) to
4 guide the cable (14).

1 19. The balance of claim 2, further comprising an

2 intermediate member (10), which holds the display/operating
3 unit (13) in place on the housing (1).

1 20. The balance of claim 19, wherein the
2 intermediate member (10) is configured to be plugged into at
3 least one of the housing (1) and the display/operating unit
4 (13).